

## Meet our new local, experienced Manager

We are thrilled to be welcoming Cassie Simadas as the new General Manager at Bundaleer. Cassie will start her new role with us in September.

A born-and-bred country girl, Cassie was raised in the Blue Mountains and has lived on the Mid North Coast for almost a decade. She possesses over 16 years' experience in aged care, retirement living, business management and health, most recently holding roles at both a retirement village and an aged care community in Port Macquarie. We're all excited about the local knowledge and depth of experience she will bring to her role at Bundaleer.

### **Why do you love working in aged care?**

My first job in aged care was a temporary role, but I quickly fell in love with everything this industry offers. I found a sense of achievement I'd never experienced in any previous role, and I knew this was my path. The joy and satisfaction that comes from caring for older Australians is a very valid purpose and something to be proud of. I've been privileged to volunteer for Leading Aged Services Australia for the last four years, helping build recruitment initiatives for the aged care industry, particularly developing career paths for younger recruits.

### **What are you most looking forward to in your new role at Bundaleer?**

I'm looking forward to preserving what makes this great local organisation so special - it's dedication to caring for the community. As Manager, I am also looking forward to supporting my team as we work together cohesively to put residents first.

### **What excites you about the Apollo Care model?**

I believe Apollo Care's purpose and model offer a strong way forward for community-based organisations like Bundaleer, so they can keep thriving in what has become a very challenging operating environment. I look forward to being supported by Apollo Care's industry-leading team that has such highly respected experience and expertise.

## Fun Facts

**Favourite pastime:** Country drives, bonfires and barbeques.

**Favourite food:** Homemade pizza. This is our family tradition every Friday night!

**If you could travel anywhere:** Right now, we love camping around our beautiful local area. There is so much still to explore in this region - it's hard to go past the beach and bush escapes on our doorstep.

**To relax, I like:** Spending time with my husband and children, or lazy Sunday afternoons with friends.

**Favourite childhood memory:** There are too many to choose from. I was fortunate to grow up in a loving family and my childhood was filled with happy memories.